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**CAISTER
ACADEMY**
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Friday 15 May 2026

Dear Parent

Summer Term – Principal's Roundup 5

Another busy and successful week here at Caister Academy.

Please see highlights below:

- Mrs Scally, Head of Year, has commended Year 7 and 8 students for an exceptionally positive and productive week, filled with energy and enthusiasm. Students have shown outstanding resilience, kindness, and a real passion for learning. It has also been fantastic to see the excitement building as they enthusiastically fill the Caister Coin counters with blue and green coins. We are all eagerly anticipating which year group will be crowned the winner of this half term's reward event!
- Mr Barker, Director of Interventions, praised Year 9 students for their positive attitude and engagement in the Elevate Education Workshop. The session provided valuable guidance on effective study techniques, organisation, and memory strategies to support success in GCSE examinations. Students responded enthusiastically to the practical approaches shared, helping them to build confidence and take greater ownership of their learning.
- A huge well done to our Year 10 students, as all work experience applications have now been submitted and placements successfully secured. We are incredibly proud of the effort and organisation shown by the year group in preparing for this important opportunity. We are very much looking forward to the Work Experience Week, which will take place from Monday 29 June to Friday 3 July, and are excited to see the valuable skills and insights students will gain during this time.
- Senior Year students have successfully completed their first full week of full-cohort final exams, marking an important milestone in their academic journey. Throughout the week, students have demonstrated an exemplary attitude, alongside achieving 100% attendance. Staff are extremely proud of the way students have conducted themselves, approaching each exam with maturity, focus, and resilience. As they move into the next stage of their exams, we wish them continued confidence and every success.
- Well done to our best attending form groups so far:
 - First place - 11 SMA (96.6%)
 - Second place - 7ATM (95.6%)
 - Third place - 11SWA (95.3%)
- And to the form groups with the highest rewards this week:
 - First place – 8MME
 - Second place – 8VRO
 - Third place – 10ALU

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Principal's Learner of the Week

Congratulations to Samantha P, Year 7, on being named Principal's Learner of the Week. Since joining our school, Samantha has demonstrated outstanding courage and determination. Arriving without knowing anyone, she has embraced every new challenge with positivity and resilience. She has quickly formed friendships, settled in wonderfully, and fully immersed herself in school life. Samantha is a fantastic example of what it means to approach new beginnings with confidence and enthusiasm.

Attendance

We are very pleased to report that attendance for our senior year examinations has been excellent, with students achieving 100% attendance so far. This demonstrates a strong commitment and positive attitude towards their studies. However, attendance for students in Years 9 and 10 has been slightly lower this week. As we approach the final week of the half term, it is important to address this, as consistent attendance is vital to ensure students do not miss key learning, particularly as revision for assessments and end-of-term work is taking place.

Looking ahead to the summer term, any student who is identified as persistently absent (below 90% attendance) will be supported through an individual attendance support plan. These plans are designed to help remove any barriers to attendance and ensure that the right support is in place. Our aim is to continue to strengthen our universal support systems so that all students are fully prepared and able to attend regularly as we move into the next academic year.

Inclusion Spotlight – Small Group Reading and 1 to 1 Reading Interventions

Small-group reading sessions provide students with focused, guided instruction in groups typically ranging from three to six learners. Teachers or support staff deliver explicit instruction in decoding, segmenting, fluency, and comprehension using texts carefully matched to student ability. The small group size allows for high levels of interaction, immediate feedback, and modelling of reading strategies. For students requiring even more intensive support, 1-to-1 reading sessions offer highly personalised instruction. These sessions enable staff to target specific gaps—such as phonemic awareness, blending, inference, or reading stamina—in a way that adapts to the learner's pace. Both formats help build confidence, fluency, and a positive reading identity.

Year 7 Mathematics Teacher Rotation

From next week, we will continue with some Year 7 mathematics teacher rotation – focusing on teachers delivering specialist topics to our students. Your child will have been notified where changes occur. Should you require any further information, please contact Mr Soanes, Head of Mathematics, daniel.soanes@caisteracademy.org.uk.

Mathematics Sparx Success

The mathematics students at Caister continue to thrive, this term alone students across all year groups have gained a total of 2,413,786 experience points on SPARX mathematics, demonstrating their determination to be successful through independent study. We continue to be one of the top performing schools in the trust for mathematics and look forward to supporting your child/children in reaching their potential as we enter the final half term.



Senior Year Prom

We are thrilled that Senior Year Prom is just around the corner, taking place on Friday 26 June - it promises to be a truly memorable evening for our students. As excitement continues to build, please remember that the final opportunity for students to collect signatures for their Passport to Prom is 3.00pm on Monday 1 June. We can't wait to celebrate this special milestone together.

Security Policy Review

We have recently reviewed our security policy in line with the increased national threat level to ensure we continue to provide a safe and supportive environment for all students. One of the updates includes clear guidance on what would happen in the unlikely event of a bomb threat. If we ever needed to evacuate the school, we would follow our usual fire alarm procedures, with students leaving in form groups and walking calmly to the Allendale playing field. There, they would remain under staff supervision while we await further instructions. We have also planned for practical needs, including access to toilets and food, should the situation require it.

Parent Visits to the Academy

We kindly ask that parents arrange an appointment before arriving on site, as we may not always be able to accommodate meetings without prior notice. Appointments can be booked by calling 01493 720542 or emailing enquiries@caisteracademy.org.uk.

Reminders for next week and beyond:

- Saturday 16 May - Senior Year Science and English Pizza Party
- Sunday 17 May - O2 Arena - Basketball Super League Finals Trip
- Thursday 21 May – Wellesley Teatime Athletics
- Friday 22 May - School closes for May half term
- Monday 1 June - School reopens for summer term 2.

Thank you for your continued support, I look forward to writing to you again next week.

Yours faithfully

Helen Seath
Principal